



**PARENT & CARER
WEEKLY BULLETIN**
Friday 8th November 2024

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

We are excited to announce that our school will be participating in a non-uniform charity day a week today on Friday 15th of November 2024 to support BBC Children in Need and the Pudsey Community Project. This initiative provides an excellent opportunity for our students to contribute to these worthy causes while enjoying a break from the usual school uniform. To participate, each student is required to pay £1, which parents can do via the Parentmail app. The funds collected will be split evenly and go directly to these charities, helping children and families in need within our community and beyond.

Unfortunately, it appears that a significant number of students have not been paying the required fee on previous non-uniform days. This trend not only undermines the purpose of the charity events but also raises concerns about their continuation. It is crucial that every student contributes their £1 to ensure the success and sustainability of such initiatives. We urge all parents to encourage their children to participate and remind them of the importance of their contribution. If your family is facing financial hardship, please contact your child's Year Leader.

We have been working with the Pudsey Community Project over the past year and I had the pleasure of visiting their impressive charity that centers around supporting the local community. Our students have spent time supporting the project by helping to sort donated clothing and we have donated previous charity fund raising contributions to this exceptional cause. The project will be holding their Christmas Clothes & Winter Coats event on Saturday 16th November from 2:00pm-5.00pm. This initiative enables people to save money while also reducing fabric waste.

Together, we can make a substantial difference and foster a spirit of generosity and community support among our students.

Mark McKelvie
Headteacher

GENERAL NOTICES

5 Ways to Wellbeing

In school we like to encourage students to look after their mental health as well as their physical health.



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WEEKLY BRIEFING

Last year we displayed Self Care slides in our assemblies to encourage students to think about ways to keep in positive mental health and develop strategies to help when they are not.

This year we are covering the '5 Steps to Wellbeing' in assemblies each half term. This is a strategy supported by the NHS and Mental Health Charities.

This half term we are covering 'Connect' which looks at how connecting with others can support positive mental health. Please see the links below for further information:

<https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/self-help/guides-tools-and-activities/five-steps-to-mental-wellbeing/>

<https://www.mind.org.uk/workplace/mental-health-at-work/five-ways-to-wellbeing/>

Mrs Williams
Director of Safeguarding and Mental Health Lead

Non-Fiction November

It's Non-Fiction November! Our school library has a huge collection of up to date and fascinating non-fiction resources. From astronomy to zoology, we have something for absolutely everyone. For this month only, all students will gain an extra ATL point for taking out a book from the non-fiction section (this is on top of the usual +1 ATL point they get for borrowing a library book).

This year's theme is 'Why Don't You?', which aims to encourage young people to try learning about a new interest or skill. If your child has learnt something really interesting in their lesson and wants to know more about it, there are further reading recommendations on Reading Cloud and the school website for each subject in KS3.

Writing Club - Wednesday 27th November

Does your child love writing? Would they like to improve their creative writing skills? Then Writing Club is the place for them! Whatever kind of writing they're into, they are free to work on their own projects or take part in the skill sessions available. Each session will focus on a different aspect of creative writing to allow students to expand their skills. At the end of the year, students will have the chance to put together a piece of work to be 'published' and made into a book that can be borrowed from the school library!

Writing Club is available to all students from Year 7 to Year 13. Students should see Ms Martin in the library to register their interest. A permission letter will then be sent via Parentmail. Writing Club begins on Wednesday 27th November.

Ms Martin
School Librarian



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Year 7

Welcome back

It has been a really good week for year 7. They have come back after half term with a really positive attitude to learning and well equipped for lessons. This week in assembly they will be receiving some really important information as well as ATL rewards.

Residential

The residential trip to PGL is now full. If you are still wanting your child to attend they will be placed on a waiting list and you will be informed if a place becomes available. We will share more details about the trip as the year goes on, if you do have any questions or concerns then please do let myself or Mrs Swithenbank know.

Mrs Mitchell
Year 7 Director of Studies

Mrs Swithenbank
Year 7 Leader

YEAR 8

I hope all students had a restful half-term break.

This half term the subject teachers are going to be inputting data for your child. This means you should receive your child's first progress report for Year 8. If you want their progress report from the end of Year 7 for comparison, please email me at h.kaye@pudseygrammar.co.uk and I can send that across to you.

Mrs Kaye
Year 8 Director of Studies

Miss Mathie
Year 8 Leader

YEAR 9

Welcome back

It was great to see Year 9 back after the half term break. Myself and Mrs Green have been particularly impressed by the uniform of the year group, the students have looked very smart! It is another long half term ahead of us, but we have made a great start to the term and we want it to continue.



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Data capture

The first data capture point is coming up in the next few weeks so the first reports will be coming out at the start of December.

Mr Lucas
Year 9 Director of Studies

Mrs Green
Year 9 Leader

YEAR 10

Year 10 Assessment Week

Next week, students in Year 10 will be sitting assessments in their classes and these will give us our first picture of their progress in Key Stage 4. During assembly and Form time, we reminded students of two techniques that they can use to support their independent revision - mind mapping and flash cards. I have copied resources on how to use the techniques in the links below for you.

<https://bit.ly/PGSmindmaps>

<https://bit.ly/PGSflashcards>

A reminder for students to photograph their revision and email it directly to me for a chance to win a box of chocolates as a way to recognise their efforts.

Year 10 Revision Resources

Students can visit the school intranet and access revision resources for their subjects throughout Year 10. Look for Revision Resources after signing into the intranet. The resources are also accessible through the website below:

<https://www.pudseygrammar.co.uk/year-7-11/year-10/revision-resources>

Mr Syed
Year 10 Director of Studies

Miss Exley
Year 10 Leader

YEAR 11

As we move into the final months of the term, we encourage our Year 11 students to keep up their strong study habits in preparation for their GCSE exams, it has been brilliant to see a number of students making the most of the after school intervention sessions. This is a crucial time to focus on progress and setting up effective routines.



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Next week, we'll be distributing reports that include students' current grades and ATLs. These grades offer a valuable starting point for discussions at home about strengths, areas for improvement and goals for the months ahead. We recommend reviewing these together and discussing any specific subjects or topics where additional support may be helpful.

If any students are interested in discussing future career paths or need additional guidance, please feel free to reach out to me or Miss Kenny. We're here to support each student in planning for their next steps and answering any questions they might have about post-16 options.

Miss Legg
Year 11 Director of Studies

Miss Birdsall
Year 11 Leader

SIXTH FORM

Important Dates

Year 13

w/c Monday 18th November
w/c Monday 9th December
9th January

Trial Exam Week #1 (dance studio)
Data Capture #2 Followed by Parents Evening on Thursday

Year 13 Trial Exam Week - Monday 18th November

Year 13 students have received a copy of the Trial Exam Timetable (and it has been sent home via email to all parents and carers). If there are any questions, please contact the Post 16 team at sixthform@pudseygrammar.co.uk.

Year 13 UCAS Reminders

UCAS deadlines are quickly approaching! Please take note of these important dates:
6th December: Internal UCAS application deadline.
29th January: UCAS Final Deadline.

If you need a UCAS information booklet, pick one up from the careers office. For any questions, contact Miss Kenny or Miss Robinson.

Year 13 UCAS/Apprenticeship/Personal Statement Clinic

Our UCAS, apprenticeship, and personal statement clinic will be held on Wednesdays from 3:00pm to 4:00pm after school in the main hall every week until Christmas. University applications should be submitted before the end of this half term, therefore we encourage students to take advantage of this opportunity to receive tailored guidance on their application.



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Year 12

The University of Liverpool has offered an exclusive three-day virtual work experience for students interested in veterinary sciences. This program, held during the February half term, will provide insights into careers in the veterinary sector, the qualifications required, and essential skills needed for success. For more details and to sign up, please check the Year 12 Google Classroom.

GCSE Maths Exam Date

Monday 11th November - Maths Paper 3 (Calculator) 9.00am

Mrs Smith
Post 16 Director of Studies

Miss Hart
Attendance and Pastoral Support

Miss Robinson
Post 16 Administrator

Miss Kenny
Careers and Enrichment Lead
